

ZEKE SILKINS.



The Major is Feeling Good--Betsy Wants to Dance--Zeke as a Philosopher.

"Hello! Mr. Editor."

R—"Good morning Major. How are you feeling?"

B—"Splendid. I feel just like a two-year-old. Betsy she is wantin' to dance all the time. I reckon if Weaver is elected I will have to hire a fiddler for a month and let her have her fun."

R—"What will she do if Cleveland or Harrison is elected?"

B—"There will be sad times at this ranch. Betsy will be fightin' mad for a year I'll bet, but if they are it can't be helped."

R—"No, there is no help for it. After you do all you can accept the result and say: 'If others had done as I did, the result would have been far different.'"

B—"That is what I tell Betsy. I tell her that right will prevail some time. If the reform cause is not entirely successful this time the ranks will gain strength rapidly during the next two years. A majority of the people are not pluto-rats, but many of them have not found it out yet. They will learn mighty fast in the next few years. The campaign of education will be continued. Scholars learn fast after they get through their A B C's. Every time one of them goes to the store and buys a trust article he will take a lesson."

Every time he hears of a man failing in business he will know that there is trouble ahead. Every time he goes to market with a load of tobacco he will think about the American Tobacco Trust. When he sells a bale of cotton at 7 or 8 cents a pound he will realize that the dealers in futures are doing business at the old stand, getting rich, too, at least many of them. He will know that the Plaid Trust is owning in for its share of the profits of raw cotton and putting up the price of cotton goods. When the scholar subscribes for a newspaper he will know that the type trust has its fingers in the pie and that the paper manufacturers are in for their share of the pile, leaving the poor editor nothing for his labor. When any of his friends die, the coffin trust will rob him of a few dollars before he can get the dead buried. On every hand he is robbed to greater or lesser extent. Only a small portion of our population are engaged in agricultural pursuits. For that reason they ought to get good prices for their products if for no other. The great bulk of our population live on the farmers, and they are draining us to death. Farmers must stick together, get through of other classes to act with them and vote with them to change the policy of the government, or else all will go down in a heap. If they can but hold the balance of power, much good can be done if they be true to themselves, firm, unflinching.

Yours for reform. Good-bye."

AMERICA VERSUS ENGLAND.

The Sumpter, S. C., Freeman says: "England once protected 'agriculturalists' and robbed manufacturers in order to do it. America now 'protects' manufacturers and robs agriculturalists in order to do it. England now has free trade and America will soon have a like blessing."

There is a world of thought in the above few words. But it doesn't prove that our friends who are crying tariff reform have a real panacea. England has removed the tariff curse, but in another place in this paper will be found a call for a general conference to discuss the causes of "England's languishing agriculture." That shows that several years of free trade has not rescued the agriculturists of England. A protectionist might get in a good blow here by saying that "free trade has ruined England." But that won't do, for in America we have extreme protection and still agriculture is languishing, so much so that many of the farmers and others have formed a new

This in silver dollars would have made a pile 125 feet long, 125 wide and 27 ft. 4 1/2 inches high. Allowing \$16 to the pound the weight of this enormous pile of debt would be 187,500,000 pounds, or 93,750 tons. Allowing 20,000 pounds to the carload it would take 9,375 cars to move it, or two trains of 15 cars each working day in the year and leave one trainload behind for the next day. To remove this debt from the

shoulders of the people in two horse wagons, allowing 600 pounds to the horse, it would take 164,583 wagons and have 400 pounds left. Allowing 25 feet to each wagon, the train of wagons would be 779 miles long and leave 18 wagons out. Think on these figures, boys; you and your offsprings will have to tussle with this debt. We are told that notwithstanding the fact that five dollars have been already paid on every three dollars of it, it would take more bales of cotton, more days hard labor, to pay the balance still due than to have paid it all at first. Whose fault is this? Think.

ANOTHER ONE NAILED.

We see the Democratic papers are denying that turncoat Adlai Stevenson was ever a Greenbacker. Let those who doubt it read the *Congressional Directory* of the 43d Congress and they will learn from his biography, written by his own hand, that he was elected to Congress from Illinois as a Greenbacker at the same time Weaver was elected to Congress from Iowa as a Greenbacker. What better proof than this is needed.

MR. CARNEGIE AS AN EMPLOYER

In 1887 Mr. Carnegie boasted that he made a clear profit of one and a half million dollars. During that winter he made a reduction in wages and ordered his men to work twelve hours a day instead of eight. His men struck and the struggle lasted five months. At the end of that time a compromise was made. In 1892 he made a reduction of from 10 to 40 per cent. The public are well acquainted with the struggle going on at Homestead, Pa., now.

The above facts are gleaned from an article in *Blackwood's Magazine*. This magazine defends Mr. Carnegie. Perhaps the editor would be on the other side if his pay should be reduced.

MORE STARTLING NEWS.

Last Thursday Col. Farmer A. Olds sent some startling news to the *Wilmington Messenger* and *Charlotte Observer*. He said: "No one can now say that there is not excitement about the election." He also wrote that "the Third party people are in a great many cases insulting to their neighbors who are Democrats." Also that the Third party people "intend to bully and provoke the Democrats at the polls."

Good gracious, fellow-citizens, has it come to this? Is it a fact that this new party, a little kid only four months old, can "bully" and insult the Democratic party, a party that has been so good at the same game? This is simply terrific. The falling of a thousand-ton meteor from mars would not be more startling than this information. Our Democratic friends must be getting thinned out if they will allow this kid to jostle them around this easily. What will it do when it gets a little older? Where is Gideon's Band? Why not call it out for protection? A week or two ago we said the State Guard might be dispensed with. We take it all back. It must be increased for the protection of the old parties against the Third party kid.

AT FIFTY CENTS A HEAD.

At St. Louis the Republican managers have bought several thousand votes at 50 cents apiece. The work was carried on openly. It is not stated how many the Democrats bought nor the price paid.

Ordinarily we might simply express our regret on hearing of such transactions—feel sorry that the poor mortals in human form would have so little honesty and self-respect. But this is truly alarming. It has been done at every city. Money has been spent, not in dollars, but by loads in and about New York. The ignorant fools and dishonest beings who sell their votes are not only putting themselves in slavery, but threaten to plunge the entire country into the same yawning pit. Plutocracy largely controls both the Republican and Democratic parties. Through prejudice and otherwise many can be controlled in their interest—many who are not dishonest. With the people's money to buy votes and the material that can be bought, there is no telling how long they can hold power and sway legislation in their interest. The situation becomes more alarming every year. Patriotic and God-fearing people must stand together, or all will be lost.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The campaign is now over. It has been a difficult matter for correspondents to think of anything practical while politics were boiling. Now we ask our correspondents to get cooled off and write on subjects of interest in a non-sectional, non-partisan way. Don't write long articles. A page or two to the point is better than a dozen. Write on financial reform or any of the reforms intended by the Alliance. Don't write what somebody has already written, nor assert that we need

so and so, but say why we need it and the best way to set about to get it. All farmers who can are requested to give their experience, whether successful or not. If you have tried clover and failed, give your experience, then perhaps some one else who has been more successful can give you some valuable information. We would like to have a series of articles on truck farming, tobacco, cotton, grain farming. Also practical experience in stock raising. Those who prefer can write on Alliance organization, how to make the organization of value, how to make the meetings interesting and educational. The ladies are always welcome contributors, and articles on household matters are generally interesting. A corner is always reserved for them. The leading agricultural and reform journals will be drawn on for items for our readers. Now let's see how interesting we can make *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER* for the next twelve months.

ENDS TO-DAY.

To day we hope the battle for political supremacy between the different parties will end, and will not be renewed for at least four years. It has been a hard fought one in several respects. Let all submit to the will of the majority, if the election be honestly conducted, no matter which party wins in State or nation, *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER* will be ready to uphold it in everything good for the people or condemn it for any injury done or attempted.

We hope all bickering will now stop. If votes are bought (and they will be) it is an awful thing, but there is no help for it now. An educational campaign must be waged against that crime for the next four years. All good people and all honest papers, without regard to party affiliations, the religious press, the Alliance press, the schools, all, should at once bestir themselves in this direction, and never halt for a moment. This is a question of vital importance. The future of the nation hinges on this matter.

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER has taken some part in the campaign, but has not gotten down in the dirt. We have criticized, approved and condemned. If we made any mistakes, and no doubt we did, we regret it, but we tried to do what we thought was best. We give all honest people credit for good intentions, we only ask the same consideration.

A DANGEROUS SENTIMENT.

A few days ago Dr. G. W. Sanderlin, State Auditor, had an appointment to speak at Burnsville, in the western part of the State. Some toughs at that place, who are Republicans, had said that no Democrat could again make a speech there. A drunken fellow by the name of Parrott created a disturbance, and, it is said, tried to cut Dr. Sanderlin with a knife while he was speaking in the court house. He was seized and hustled out. At the door other toughs had collected and a fight ensued, in which several on both sides were injured. Parrot was killed.

This intolerant spirit is dangerous. It has cropped out on more than one occasion this year. It appears North, South, East and West. In Georgia the Democrats started out by egging Gen. Weaver and others. In Kansas the Republicans tried the same game. In California, New York and other places it has cropped out. We have not heard of People's party men going so far with their zeal, but they, too, have been intolerant in several places.

From now on it is the duty of the reform press to wage a vigorous campaign against such proceedings. Sectionalism has, to a great extent, been wiped out, and this spirit of lawlessness and intolerance must go. All good people, no matter which party they be long to, must aid in stamping out this dangerous sentiment. Freedom of thought and speech must be sacredly guarded.

HOW IS IT?

Some of our exchanges keep their type hot on the following:

"The farmer is learning that the prices of his products are fixed in foreign markets, where he suffers from a competition invited and built up by the [protective] system he is asked to support.—*Grover Cleveland's Letter of Acceptance.*"

Is this really a fact? Let us look into it and see. Comparing Latham, Alexander & Co.'s figures we find the cotton crop of 1876 sold in New York at 11.73 cents and in Liverpool at 6.29 pence, and the crop of 1877 sold in New York at 11.28 cents (a decline of .45) while in Liverpool it sold at 9.29 pence, an advance of 3 pence per pound, or very nearly 50 per cent. Who fixed the prices then? Is not Mr. Cleveland in error? A 50 per cent. rise in Liverpool and a decline in New York looks like New York has a voice in it.

LADIES

Needing a tonic, or children who want building up, should take

BROWN'S IRON BITTERS.

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TO HOLD A CONFERENCE.

A dispatch from London a few days ago says:

"The central chamber of agriculture will to-morrow discuss the question of holding a conference of delegates from all parts of the United Kingdom to discuss the depression in the agricultural industry. Meetings have been held at Liverpool, Manchester, Northampton, Edinburgh and other centres at which in voting on the question of holding a natural conference wide diversity of views was shown in regard to means to be adopted to remedy the depression."

Perhaps that is a good start. But in this case, as well as all others, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. What is the cause of this agricultural depression? Certainly it is not a lack of "home markets," for England is literally covered with manufacturing cities. Her farmers are intelligent and industrious. Improved implements are used. The farms are highly improved ones. Yet agriculture is depressed and the other industries of the country are feeling it.

England is suffering from the same disease that is hurrying America to destruction. Royalty is bleeding the masses. Cities, railroads, factories, banks and the magnificent estates of Lord this and Lady that have absorbed the life blood of the people. Owing to the depression factories have reduced wages and many operatives are talking of coming to the United States to help pull our people down.

There is an abundance of money in England. Her cities are prosperous. But the masses have been bled too fast to keep up their splendor. The standing army and navy of England, the most formidable in all the world, is taxing the masses beyond endurance. The royal people and the banks are able to swim, but the working people are going down, down.

Just so in America. The millionaires, party to try to get relief. This shows that neither protection nor free trade is the great remedy.

Financial reform, equal rights, suppression of trusts of all kinds, the breaking up of future dealing in farm products and a graduated income tax is what we need. The tariff may be increased or abolished and the effect will not be more than a ripple unless more is done. Vote for the party that proposes to do more.

SENATOR INGALLS ON ELECTIONS AND FREE COINAGE.

In the Senate of the United States, on January 14, 1891, pending consideration of the financial bill, the question being upon Senator Stewart's free silver coinage amendment, Senator Ingalls, of Kansas, addressed the Senate in favor of free coinage. He spoke as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT: Two portentous perils threaten the safety, if they do not endanger the existence, of the republic. The first of these is ignorant, debased, degraded, spurious and sophisticated suffrage; suffrage contaminated by the sewage of decaying nations, suffrage intimidated and suppressed in the South; suffrage impure and corrupt, apathetic and indifferent in the great cities of the North; so that it is doubtful whether there has been for half a century a presidential election in this country that expressed the deliberate and intelligent judgment of the whole body of the American people.

In the same speech Mr. Ingalls declared that "there is not a State west of the Alleghany mountains and south of the Potomac and Ohio rivers that is not in favor of free coinage of silver." He also said, "In 1800 there was not a tramp nor a millionaire." "Nor do I believe, he continued, "that any man can accumulate a million dollars honestly." He further declared that "there will come a time when the people will be trifled with no longer on this subject." He said, "they will elect a House of Representatives of the United States; they will elect a Senate of the United States; they will elect a President of the United States, who will carry out the pledges and execute the popular will."

Evidently Mr. Ingalls was speaking the truth, but the strange part of it all is that he never came to this conclusion until after he was defeated for reelection to the Senate. He was in the Senate many years. It seems to us that Mr. Ingalls ought to have put in more time creating sentiment in favor of free coinage before his time was out. The last Congress made the same mistake. It is curious how long some people live before they get their eyes open.

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COL. GREEN AND THE ALLIANCE.

Bro. Downing Comes Back at Him Again.

BUCKHORN, N. C.

MR. EDITOR:—Col. Wharton J. Green attempts a reply to my article through the *State Chronicle* in its issue of Nov. 1st, and calls me a liar and spits his venom on *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER*. I shall not attempt to defend *THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER*, as it is abundantly able to defend itself. I will quote a part of his letter of withdrawal and try to show the inconsistency in his letters, resolutions, etc. Col. Green in his letter of withdrawal says: "Indispensable prerequisite to the first was the assurance, oral and otherwise, that the right of opinion in matters of religion and politics would not be infringed or in anywise abridged." Col. Green continues by saying: "I have to the extent of limited ability persistently combatted its tendency to disregard such sacred pledge." And Col. Green continues by trying to make people believe that the above is true and says: "You (Win. R. King) and all others cognizant are bound to admit."

Now are we bound to admit that he has "combatted its tendency to disregard such sacred pledge." Col. Green tries to force people to admit a lie in his own behalf. Now to show that Col. Green is trying to make the Alliance of Cumberland county admit a lie in his own behalf I will quote a part of his resolutions that he introduced in the Cumberland Farmers' Alliance:

Resolved, That we, the Alliance of Cumberland county, do hereby proclaim our unwavering and unalterable preference for white rule; and whereas, the disintegration of the Alliance or Democratic party under whatever pretext advanced imports thus possible several of nature's laws."

Now, I ask the fair minded man to examine the contrast between Col. Green's letter of withdrawal and the above resolution. Now, Col. Green, why is it that you didn't take some of your own medicine that you were offering to other people? You are the man who has been trying to get the Alliance into politics. You should have said in your letter of withdrawal that you could not remain in the Alliance any longer because you offered some partisan resolutions in the County Alliance to endorse the Democratic party and they were tabled and that was more than you could bear, because the balance of the Democrat Alliancemen would help you force the Republican Alliancemen to vote the Democratic ticket and that was an insult to your "intelligence."

Col. Green in his reply through the *Chronicle* does not deny but admits by saying: "I was simply striving to check the mad drift then setting in for the disruption of the constitutional

Democratic party," and continues by saying, "and to prevent the state of unprincipled scoundrels taking that leading it, by insidious trickery, like sheep to the slaughter." I now challenge Col. Green to name a man in the County Alliance who has tried to lead the Alliance into partisan politics, name the "unprincipled scoundrels" who have led the Alliance sheep to the slaughter. Let the unprejudiced man decide who the "scoundrels" are, and I am sure that they will locate the "unprincipled scoundrels" at or near Tokyo.

Col. Green says: "You know that when you were guilty of the breach of oath in divulging them." I am ready for trial if I have "let out" anything. Col. Green says: "But when the D. C. C. F. A. couples my name with that traitor to the good of the Alliance, I place the imprint of a lie upon his forehead, and there he must wear it."

I ask all fair minded men to take Col. Green's letter of withdrawal, his resolutions in the April meeting of the County Alliance and his reply through the *State Chronicle*, and I am sure if they give their verdict "according to law and evidence" they will say that Col. Green is guilty of treason and a Benedict Arnold to the noble aims of the Farmers' Alliance.

Yours truly,

D. C. DOWNING.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS ON THE CURRENCY.

1. Is it not a fact that the national bank circulation, as at present arranged, is a temporary expedient for which in a relatively short time some substitute must be found?

2. Does not the fact that the circulation of national bank currency, which was more than \$223,000,000 in 1882, and is now but \$147,000,000, indicate that the time has come for definitely considering what this substitute shall be?

3. Are there any other means of providing a substitute but these: permitting State banks to undertake the business, creating a great United States bank something like the Bank of England, or granting the unique right to the United States Treasury of issuing paper money?—*Boston Herald.*

DIED.

October 20th, 1892, sister Martha P. Busick, aged 55 years, three months and eight days. She was a consistent member of the Christian church at Hines' Chapel, and a worthy member of Pine Grove Alliance.

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